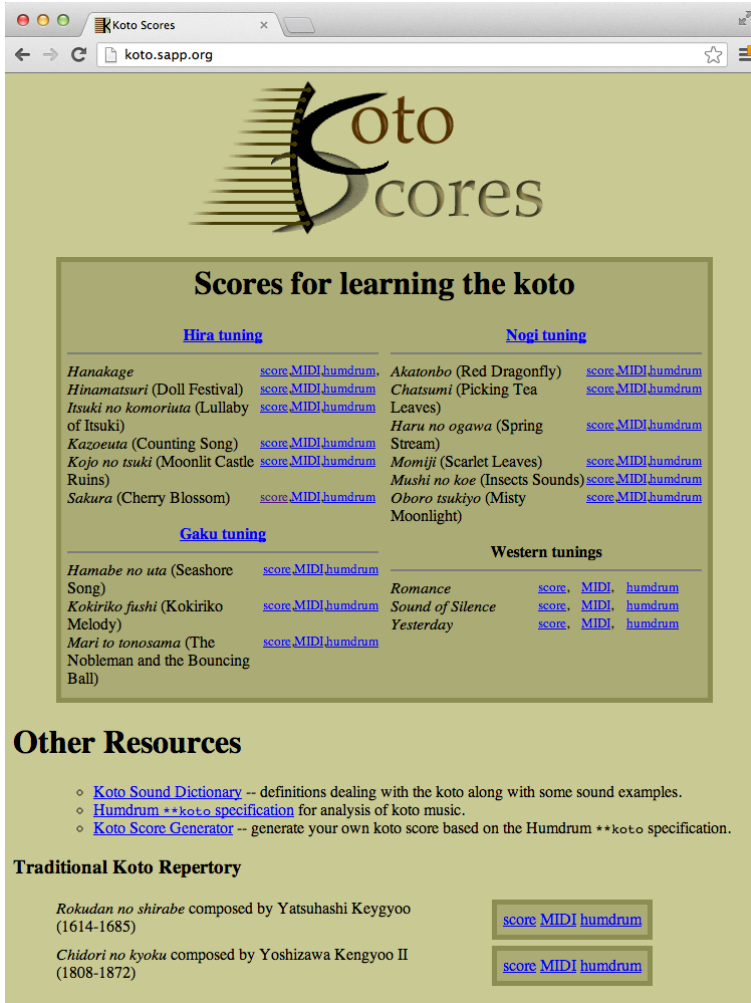


Koto Notation in Humdrum

craig@ccrma.stanford.edu

Koto scores website

<http://koto.sapp.org>



Koto Scores

Scores for learning the koto

| Hira tuning | Nogi tuning |
|---|---|
| <i>Hanakage</i> score MIDI humdrum | <i>Akatonbo</i> (Red Dragonfly) score MIDI humdrum |
| <i>Hinamatsuri</i> (Doll Festival) score MIDI humdrum | <i>Chatsumi</i> (Picking Tea Leaves) score MIDI humdrum |
| <i>Itsuki no komoriuta</i> (Lullaby of Itsuki) score MIDI humdrum | <i>Haru no ogawa</i> (Spring Stream) score MIDI humdrum |
| <i>Kazoeta</i> (Counting Song) score MIDI humdrum | <i>Momiji</i> (Scarlet Leaves) score MIDI humdrum |
| <i>Kojo no tsuki</i> (Moonlit Castle Ruins) score MIDI humdrum | <i>Mushi no koe</i> (Insects Sounds) score MIDI humdrum |
| <i>Sakura</i> (Cherry Blossom) score MIDI humdrum | <i>Oboro tsukiyo</i> (Misty Moonlight) score MIDI humdrum |

| Gaku tuning | Western tunings |
|---|--|
| <i>Hamabe no uta</i> (Seashore Song) score MIDI humdrum | <i>Romance</i> score MIDI humdrum |
| <i>Kokiriko fushi</i> (Kokiriko Melody) score MIDI humdrum | <i>Sound of Silence</i> score MIDI humdrum |
| <i>Mari to tonosama</i> (The Nobleman and the Bouncing Ball) score MIDI humdrum | <i>Yesterday</i> score MIDI humdrum |

Other Resources

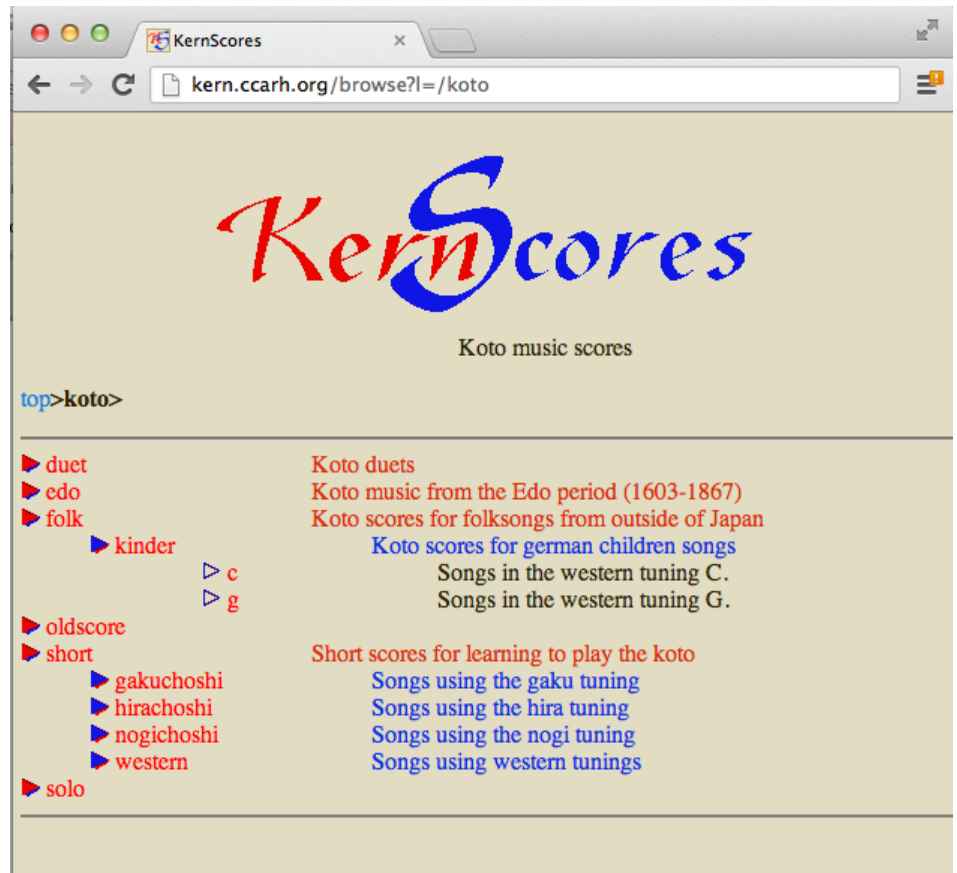
- [Koto Sound Dictionary](#) -- definitions dealing with the koto along with some sound examples.
- [Humdrum + *koto specification](#) for analysis of koto music.
- [Koto Score Generator](#) -- generate your own koto score based on the Humdrum + *koto specification.

Traditional Koto Repertory

Rokudan no shirabe composed by Yatsushashi Keygyoo (1614-1685) [score](#) [MIDI](#) [humdrum](#)

Chidori no kyoku composed by Yoshizawa Kengyoo II (1808-1872) [score](#) [MIDI](#) [humdrum](#)

<http://kern.ccarh.org/browse?l=/koto>



KernScores

Koto music scores

[top](#) > [koto](#) >

- ▶ [duet](#)
- ▶ [edo](#)
- ▶ [folk](#)
- ▶ [kinder](#)
- ▶ [oldscore](#)
- ▶ [short](#)
- ▶ [solo](#)

[c](#)

[g](#)

Koto duets
Koto music from the Edo period (1603-1867)
Koto scores for folksongs from outside of Japan
Koto scores for german children songs
Songs in the western tuning C.
Songs in the western tuning G.

Short scores for learning to play the koto
Songs using the gaku tuning
Songs using the hira tuning
Songs using the nogi tuning
Songs using western tunings

String tuning

Hira-choshi



string no. 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13

Standard koto
tuning

Kumoi-choshi



string no. 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13

Nogi-choshi



Folksong tuning

Koto Scores

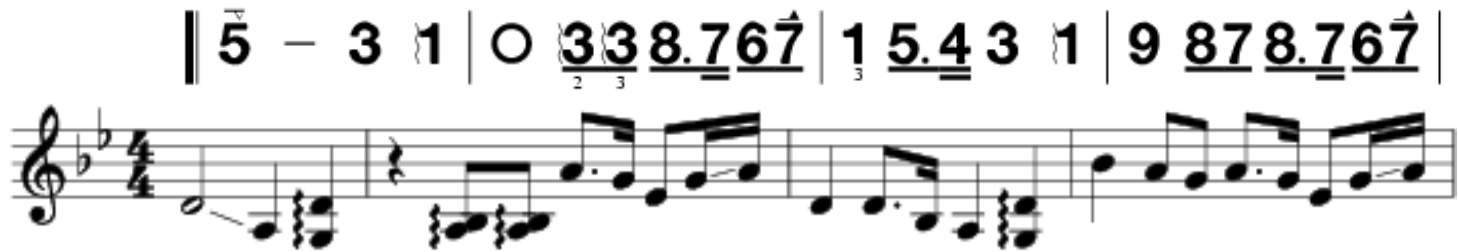
Digital koto scores

The image displays a digital koto score on two staves, each with a treble clef and a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The time signature is 4/4. The notation consists of a series of notes and rests, with fingerings indicated by numbers 1-7 and letters A, B, C, D. The first staff contains seven measures, and the second staff contains seven measures, ending with a double bar line. The notes are written on a five-line staff, and the fingerings are written above the notes. The first staff starts with a 4/4 time signature and a key signature of two flats. The second staff also starts with a 4/4 time signature and a key signature of two flats. The notes are written on a five-line staff, and the fingerings are written above the notes. The first staff contains seven measures, and the second staff contains seven measures, ending with a double bar line. The notes are written on a five-line staff, and the fingerings are written above the notes. The first staff starts with a 4/4 time signature and a key signature of two flats. The second staff also starts with a 4/4 time signature and a key signature of two flats. The notes are written on a five-line staff, and the fingerings are written above the notes. The first staff contains seven measures, and the second staff contains seven measures, ending with a double bar line.

Staff 1: 7 7 8 - | 7 7 8 - | 7 8 9 8 | 7 8 7 6 - | 5 4 5 6 | 5 5 4 3 - | 7 8 9 8

Staff 2: 7 8 7 6 - | 5 4 5 6 | 5 5 4 3 - | 7 7 8 - | 7 7 8 - | A B D C B | A - - ○

****koto representation in Humdrum**



```

**koto          **kuchi          **kern
*M4/4           *M4/4           *M4/4
*tune[d:G:A:B-:d:e-:g:a:b-:dd:ee-:gg:aa]  *  *
!!Section 1
*>A            *>A            *>A
=1-            =1-            =1-
{5+i          te              {2d
-              n              .
3             ton            4A
1s            shan           4d: 4G:
=2            =2            =2
0}            .              4r}
{3|sb         sha            {8A: 8A#:
3|sc         sha            8A: 8A#:
8|           koo            8.a
7|           ro             16g
6|           rin            8d#
7|o         chin           16gH
.            .              16ah
=3           =3            =3
1c          ton            4d
5|          koo            8.d
4|          ro             16A#
3|          rin            4A}
{1s         shan           {4d: 4G:
=4          =4            =4
9           chin           4a#
8|          te             8a
7|          tsu            8g
...         ...           ...

```

<http://koto.sapp.org/kotospec>

- Numbers (+A,B,C,D) = string #
- 0 = rest
- a, b, c = fingering (a=thumb)
- { } = phrasing
- | = beam, dot = aug. dot
- || = 16th, | = 8th, nothing = quarter note
- + means duration continues, - = quarter
- # = raise pitch ½ step
- ## = raise pitch whole step
- ### = raise pitch 1.5 steps
- s = sha ornamentation

Rokudan no shirabe

Yatsushashi, Kengyoo
(1614-1685)

|| 5̣ - 3 1 | ○ 3̣3̣8.767̣ | 1̣ 5.4̣ 3 1 | 9 878.767̣ |

5
|| 1̣ 5.4̣ 3 1 | ○ 1 5 1̣1̣ | 6̣ 15 7 - | 3̣3̣87̣ 3̣3̣89̣ |

9
|| 5̣ A.9̣ 8 1 | 9̣ A C D C B C̣ | B5̣ A.9̣ 8 1 | 9̣ A B B |

13
|| A9̣ A.9̣ 8 78 | 9̣ 1 A 6̣6̣ | Ḅ 5A C D C | 88̣ D C B A |

17
|| 98̣ D C 88̣ D C | B A 8 D | 5 A 9̣ A | B A 9 A9̣ 89̣ |

21
|| 7 8 9̣ A9̣ | 5̣5̣ A C̣ B A | D. C̣ B B. C̣ | 5̣ A.9̣ 8 78 |

25
|| 9̣ A9̣ A9̣ 89̣ | 78̣ 9̣ A 8.767̣ | 1̣ 5.4̣ 3 1 | ○ 7 8767̣ |

29
|| 1̣ 5.4̣ 3 5̣5̣ | A9̣ 89̣ 8.767̣ | 1̣ 5.4̣ 3 1 | ○ 1 5 1̣1̣ |

Section 2

JAPAN

JVC
VICG-60397

六段・春の海
第曲の地盤

JVC WORLD SOUNDS

MUSIC OF THE KOTO



Nakanoshima, Kin'ichi
(1904-1984)

Main schools of koto



Ikuta school

- Flat plectra (Tsume, “claws”)
- Ikuta Kengyō (1666-1716)
- Merge koto and shamisen styles
- Osaka area



Yamada school

- Pointed plectra
- Yamada Kengyō (1757-1817)
- Student of Ikuta school
- Incorporates shamisen styles of Tokyo

Sakura (Cherry Blossoms)

Hira-choshi

|| 7 7 8 - | 7 7 8 - | 7 8 9 8 | 7 87 6 - |
sa ku ra sa ku ra no ya ma mo sa to - mo

5

|| 5 4 5 6 | 5 54 3 - | 7 8 9 8 | 7 87 6 - |
mi wa ta su ka gi - ri ka su mi ka ku mo - ka

9

|| 5 4 5 6 | 5 54 3 - | 7 7 8 - | 7 7 8 - |
a sa hi ni ni o - u sa ku ra sa ku ra

13

|| A B DC B | A - - O ||
ha na za - ka ri